

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/377,045

Applicant(s)

SUDOLCAN, PAUL S.

Examiner

Devona E. Faulk

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 4/11/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-8,10 and 11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 August 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 4/11/2005, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1, 2, 4-8 and 10 under 112 and 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection would have been made in view of Reading. The applicant agreed to an examiner's amendment to place independent claims 1 and 8 in allowable form.
2. Claims 3 and 9 are cancelled. Claim 11 is added.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Christopher L. Makay (Reg. No. 34,475) on 11/4/2005.

The claims are amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 6: between "a" and "sensor", insert - - current - -.

Claim 1, line 6: between "sensor", and "linked" insert - - comprising a comparator, a current divider and a current transformer, wherein the current sensor is - -

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Claim 1, line 6: between "the" and "sensor", insert - - current - - .

Claim 4, line 1: after "claim 1", delete "3".

Claim 4, lines 4 and 5: between "the" and "sensor", insert - - current - - .

Claim 8, line 7: between "a" and "sensor", insert - - current - - .

Claim 8, line 7: between "sensor", and "linked" insert - - comprising a
comparator, a current divider and a current transformer, wherein the current sensor is - -

Claim 8, line 8: after "sonic generator", insert - - assembly - - .

Claim 8, line 9: between "the" and "sensor", insert - - current - - .

Claim 11, line 1: after "valve", delete " ,".

Claim 11, line 1: after "valve " insert - - according to claim 8 - - .

4. **Claims 1,2,4-8,10-11** are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art Whigman et al. (US 5,129,434) discloses beverage-dispensing valve with flow control lever arm. Prior art Sacchetti (US 5,908,142) discloses a beer tap display system with customizable programming and multi-media output means. McCann et al. (US 3,647,115) discloses a liquid-dispensing device with audible alarm. Foster (US 6,125,482) discloses a hand-washing unit. Prior art Reading (US 5,730,330) discloses a liquid dispensing apparatus including visually stimulating syrup display tubes. The prior art or combination thereof fails to disclose or make obvious a current sensor comprising a comparator, a current divider and a current transformer linked with a sonic generator and activating the

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sonic generator assembly as claimed. Therefore, the prior art or combination thereof fails to disclose or make obvious a dispensing valve as claimed.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Devona E. Faulk whose telephone number is 571-272-7515. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin can be reached on 571-272-7848. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-272-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DEF


VIVIAN CHIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600